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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAH #1026 2260957  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 140957Z AUG 09  
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3290  
INFO RHMFIUU/CDR USTRANSCOM SCOTT AFB IL  
RHMCSUU/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS ASHGABAT 001026

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [TX](#)

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN: REQUEST FOR RADIOS AND EQUIPMENT

¶1. DoD has an increased need for overflight of Turkmenistan in order to maintain the increased operational tempo in Afghanistan. The Government of Turkmenistan has informed State officials, that they cannot support US requests for increased overflight without an upgrade to their air traffic control equipment, otherwise they risk the safety of all craft overflying Turkmen airspace.

¶2. Request DoD use its authorities to provide THY air traffic control equipment as recommended in the recent Air Force Central Command (AFCENT) report. The recommendations provided in the report, four VHF radios and two VSAT terminals, should allow Turkmenistan to handle the increase in DoD requirements safely.

¶3. Supporting this initiative will enhance operational capability and ensure the safety of US pilots in support of US operations in Afghanistan. Consequently, Embassy Ashgabat requests that the Department of Defense should provide the requested equipment at the earliest opportunity.

MILES